

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for receiving, storing, and dispensing ~~a stranded~~ an elongate material, the apparatus comprising:

a tubular member having a generally cylindrical shape defined by a length in an axial direction and a radius in a radial direction, ~~configured to receive a stranded material wrapped therearound~~ the tubular member having a first end and a second end; and

a first flange ~~configured to engage proximate the first end of~~ the tubular member and comprising

a core portion, ~~having an arbor aperture therein and configured to support the apparatus on an arbor through the arbor aperture~~ extending in the radial direction from an arbor aperture to proximate the first end of the tubular member,

an outer portion extending radially in the radial direction away from the core portion to an outer edge ~~and configured to restrain the stranded material in an axial direction~~, and

the core portion being corrugated to comprise a plurality of web portions, each web portion of the plurality of web portions being offset axially from an adjacent web portion portions.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the core portion further comprises a plurality of connecting walls, each connecting wall of the plurality of connecting walls ~~being configured to extend~~ extending between two adjacent web portions of the plurality of web portions.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first flange further comprises a ~~base, having corrugations, and a closure, and wherein the closure is configured to~~ secured to the core portion to stiffen the first flange by creating a closed cross-section in corrugations of the ~~base~~ core portion.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second flange ~~configured to engage proximate the second end of~~ the tubular member, the tubular member ~~further configured to secure~~ securing to the first and second flanges to support an axial tensile force therebetween.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the outer portion is substantially flat.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the outer edge further comprises a raised rim.

7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the outer portion is ~~ribbed~~ stiffened by ribs.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the ribs of the outer portion ~~ribs are further configured to~~ have a plurality of corrugations alternately displaced in a circumferential direction along a ~~radial~~ path in the radial direction.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the outer portion is corrugated.

10. (currently amended) An apparatus for receiving, storing, and dispensing ~~a stranded~~ an elongate material, the apparatus comprising:

a tubular member having a generally cylindrical shape defined by a length in an axial direction and a radius in a radial direction, ~~configured to receive a stranded an elongate~~ material wrapped therearound;

a first flange ~~configured to engage proximate~~ the tubular member and comprising

an arbor wall defining an arbor aperture ~~and configured to support the apparatus on an arbor through the arbor aperture~~, and

an outer portion extending ~~radially away in the radial direction~~ from the arbor wall to an outer edge ~~and configured to restrain the stranded elongate material in an axial direction; the axial direction; and~~

~~a second flange configured to engage the tubular member opposite the first flange; and~~

the first flange wherein the outer portion ~~is configured to have~~ comprises a plurality of corrugations in which each corrugation thereof extends from substantially the arbor wall to substantially the outer edge.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a second flange, wherein the tubular member is further secured to the first and second flanges to support an axial tensile force therebetween.

12. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first flange further comprises a ~~base and closure secured together~~ to the outer portion to stiffen the first flange by creating a closed cross-section in substantially the each corrugation of the plurality of corrugations.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the plurality of corrugations of the outer ~~region portion~~ further ~~comprise outer~~ comprises webs, alternatingly offset from one another in the axial direction, and connector walls extending between adjacent ~~outer~~ webs.

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (original) An apparatus for receiving, storing, and dispensing ~~a stranded~~ an elongate material, the apparatus comprising:

a tubular member defining axial, radial, and circumferential directions and shaped to receive ~~a stranded~~ an elongate material wrapped therearound;

a first flange ~~engaging proximate~~ the tubular member and comprising an arbor wall defining the perimeter of a centrally located arbor aperture and an outer portion surrounding the arbor wall and extending away therefrom in the radial direction to an outer edge, the outer portion providing a restraint to the ~~stranded~~ elongate material in the axial direction; and

the outer portion formed as a plurality of corrugations in which at least one corrugation thereof ~~directly contacts~~ terminates proximate the arbor wall and extends therefrom to substantially the outer edge.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the tubular member is secured to the first flange to support a tensile force in the axial direction therebetween.

18. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 17, where the plurality of corrugations comprise a plurality of web portions arranged to be discontinuous in the circumferential direction and to extend away from the arbor wall in the radial direction, each web portion of the plurality of web portions being offset in the axial direction from ~~an adjacent web portion~~ adjacent web portions.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the plurality of corrugations comprise a plurality of connecting walls, each connecting wall of the plurality of connecting walls extending between two adjacent web portions of the plurality of web portions.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein each corrugation of the plurality of corrugations directly contacts the arbor wall and extends away therefrom to substantially the outer edge.

21. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the at least one corrugations directly contacts the arbor wall.

22. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the at least one corrugation terminates proximate a rib extending substantially to the arbor wall.

23. (new) An apparatus for containing an elongate material wrapped therearound, the apparatus having axial, radial, and circumferential directions and comprising:

a tube to receive and dispense an elongate material wrapped in the circumferential direction therearound, the tube having a first end and a second end;

a first flange having an inner radius forming an arbor engagement portion to rotate the apparatus thereabout, an outer radius defining an outer edge spaced in the radial direction from the arbor engagement portion, and a core radius defining a region of the first flange to contact the first end of the tube; and

the first flange, further comprising corrugations extending radially from proximate the core radius to proximate the outer radius, the corrugations comprising a plurality of webs, each web of the plurality of webs being offset axially from adjacent webs of the plurality of webs, and a plurality of connecting walls, each connecting wall of the plurality of connecting walls extending between two adjacent webs of the plurality of webs, the connecting walls having a width in the axial direction of substantially uniform dimension from substantially the core radius to the outer radius.

24. (new) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the first flange is formed to have a uniform axial thickness from substantially the core radius to the outer radius.

25. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the connecting walls extend perpendicularly between adjacent webs of the plurality of webs.

26. (new) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein one half of the plurality of webs are inner webs and the other half of the plurality of webs are outer webs.

27. (new) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the inner webs and outer webs are alternately positioned around the first flange.

28. (new) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the inner and outer webs are substantially planar and extend in the radial and circumferential directions.

29. (new) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the inner webs are substantially greater in area than the outer webs.

30. (new) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the inner webs have a substantially constant width in the circumferential direction along a path in the radial direction.

31. (new) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the outer webs have a width in the circumferential direction that varies at a constant rate along a path in the radial direction.

32. (new) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the first flange is formed as a homogeneous material.

33. (new) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the first flange is formed of a polymer.

34. (new) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first flange is formed of an olefinic polymer.

35. (new) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the first flange is homogeneously and monolithically molded of polyethylene.

36. (new) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the arbor engagement portion is an arbor aperture.

37. (new) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a second flange positioned proximate the second end of the tube.

38. (new) An apparatus for containing an elongate material wrapped therearound, the apparatus having axial, radial, and circumferential directions and comprising:

a tube to receive and dispense an elongate material wrapped in the circumferential direction therearound, the tube having a first end and a second end;

a first flange having an inner radius forming an arbor engagement portion to rotate the apparatus thereabout, an outer radius defining an outer edge spaced in the radial direction from the arbor engagement portion, and a core radius defining a region of the first flange to contact the first end of the tube; and

the first flange, further comprising corrugations extending radially from proximate the core radius to proximate the outer radius, the corrugations comprising a plurality of webs, each web of the plurality of webs being offset axially from adjacent webs of the plurality of webs, and a plurality of connecting walls, each connecting wall of the plurality of connecting walls extending between two adjacent webs of the plurality of webs, the connecting walls and webs being molded of a homogeneous material.